

JARBIDGE RIVER BULL TROUT RECOVERY TEAM

Final Meeting Summary

Dates: May 2-3, 2006

Location: High Tech Center (Room 118), Great Basin College, Elko, Nevada

Team Members Present: Sonny Buhidar (IDEQ-Twin Falls; 1st mtg.), Tim Burton (BLM-Boise), John Elliott (NDOW-Elko), Todd Gilmore (FWS-Reno), Jim Harvey (USFS-Sparks), Gary Johnson (NDOW-Elko), Chris Reighn (FWS-Boise), Rob Ryan (IDFG-Jerome), Scott Stanton (IDEQ-Twin Falls; 1st mtg.), Selena Werdon (FWS-Reno)

Team Members Absent: Tim Dykstra (DVSPT), Maija Meneks (USFS-Elko), Laurie Sada (FWS-Reno), Dennis Walker (NDF)

Media Contact: John Sents (Elko Daily Free Press) attended briefly.

AGENDA and DISCUSSION SUMMARY

1) Agenda and timelines

2) 2006 Jarbidge Bull Trout Survey Contract

The Team recommended selecting the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), Western Fisheries Research Center, Columbia River Research Laboratory as contractors to perform bull trout surveys starting in July 2006. Phase I of the survey work will involve capturing and tagging bull trout with Passive Integrated Transponder (PIT) tags and monitoring the movements of tagged fish with instream antennas. A subgroup of the Team will meet with USGS to further refine the scope of work and facilitate implementation of Phase I including: antenna locations, equipment issues, State/Federal permits, and ESA/NEPA/CWA compliance. Combine the stakeholder meeting with a field trip for USGS - Monday 6/19 or Wednesday 6/21.

3) IDEQ Discussion

As part of a lawsuit settlement agreement, IDEQ is believed to be required to establish water quality standards for the mainstem Jarbidge River in Idaho by 2007 under section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act. Temperature is one standard. There are four components IDEQ looks at for temperature – 1) acute affects to beneficial uses of aquatic habitats, 2) chronic effects, 3) stream characterization, and 4) thermal loading. IDEQ will get back to the Team regarding outstanding needs and what has been done. Unknown whether any stream segments are currently 303(d) listed. Currently working on this issue in the Bruneau subbasin. Bruneau TMDL is done and approved – assessment review is required every 5 years.

4) Stakeholder Meeting – Jarbidge, Nevada

Tuesday June, 20th – 1:00 p.m. (Mountain time)

- Date selected based on availability of Team members and avoiding conflict with regularly scheduled Elko County Commission meetings (June 7, 8, and 21).
- Potential meeting room locations (30 people?): Jarbidge Community Hall (highest priority), Tsawhabitts Ranch Bed and Breakfast “Party House,” Outdoor Inn restaurant, Three Creek School.

- Potential Team lodging accommodations: Tsawhabitts Ranch Bed and Breakfast, Outdoor Inn, or Jackpot (~75 miles).
- Target audience: Stakeholders in the local area and local officials.
- Potential agenda topics:
 - USGS contractor presentation – shorter and less technical than in Reno.
 - Pole Creek project.
 - Road activities and bridge replacement work in 2006.
 - Elgoro Mine monitoring results – including waste dump area.
 - Stakeholder involvement opportunities.
 - Solicitation of stakeholder feedback - concerns, interest, etc. regarding anything.
- Potential meeting participants:
 - Team: Laurie Sada, Selena Werdon, Todd Gilmore, Jim Harvey, Rob Ryan, John Elliott, Gary Johnson, Chris Reighn, Scott Stanton, Sonny Buhidar, Kate Forster.
 - Other: Jeannie Stafford (FWS-Reno) facilitator/organizer/note taker; Matt Mesa (USGS) and Pat Connolly (USGS) contractors.
- Meeting invitations:
 - Issue invitation letters via mailing to physical address; e-mail not reliable. Letter should include: request for e-mail address if interested in continuing to be informed of bull trout recovery actions, website link, and RSVP request. Try to get letter mailed out to stakeholders by 5/17.
 - Post meeting fliers at Outdoor Inn, Bed and Breakfast, Jarbidge Community Hall, Three Creek School, etc.
 - Elko Daily Free Press – John Sents will write meeting article.
- Stakeholder mailing list:
 - Jarbidge property owners obtained from Elko County Assessor.
 - FWS is working with Owyhee Co. assessor to obtain mailing addresses for Murphy Hot Springs property owners.
 - Stakeholders who attended January 2006 public meeting.
- Stakeholder involvement opportunities:
 - Stakeholder representative at future Team meetings/events.
 - Bull trout survey implementation (especially in winter) – charge/change receiver batteries, download tag data, provide alternate power supply, etc.
 - Kiosk/public education. Stakeholders/FS - Campground folks to check boxes and make contacts/interviews.
 - Angler creel surveys/angler contacts – encourage use of questionnaire, provide input on location for angler questionnaire boxes (NDOW may have a box installed before June meeting).
 - Revegetation of temporary bridge site from summer 2005?
 - Review of Team's threats table and solicitation of input regarding potential errors or additional threats.
 - Lodging for 2006 survey techs.
 - Elgoro Mine/channel restoration project.

- Discuss need/potential for other physical barriers to address ATV trails and vehicle access sites to river. Related to USFS travel management plan.

5) Follow up on Team assignments from March 2006 meeting

(See Assignments document)

6) Team editing of draft Recovery Plan sections

(Postponed until June 2006 meeting)

7) Assess May 2006 Team meeting

8) Next Team meeting logistics

- Tentatively June 1-2, 2006 in Elko, Nevada.
- Draft agenda items:
 - RP Team edits.
 - Review independent edits of RP.
 - Update on patch analysis and recovery criteria monitoring.
 - Update on Bob Williams' contractor decision.
 - Update/planning for 2006 surveys – logistics, coordination w/contractor, *etc.*
 - Anything that needs to be addressed prior to August 22-23 (next meeting).
 - Develop August 2006 meeting agenda topics.